AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. – 21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) A method of analyzing a subject, comprising the steps of:

administering a processing agent substance to a subject chosen from a human being, a plant and an animal, the processing agent having a primary behavior effective in combination with a processing system to achieve a desired process result, the processing agent further having a distinctive signature characteristic distinguishing it from other processing agents;

testing for the distinctive signature characteristic of the processing agent using a test functionality of a processing system;

selectively modifying subsequent operation of the processing system based on a result from the test for the distinctive signature characteristic of the processing agent wherein the step of selectively modifying subsequent operation of the processing system comprises at least partially disabling output of the process result in the absence of the distinctive signature characteristic.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 22, wherein the administering step comprises administering a processing agent substance to a subject chosen from a human being, a plant and an animal, the processing agent having a first component for providing a primary behavior effective in combination with a processing system to achieve a desired process result and a second component having a distinctive signature characteristic distinguishing the processing agent from other processing agents.

25. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 22 wherein the administering step comprises administering a processing agent substance to a human being, the processing agent having a primary behavior effective in combination with a processing system to achieve a desired process result, wherein the processing agent exhibits a distinctive signature characteristic after administration to the human being distinguishing the processing agent from other processing agents.

26. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 25 wherein the administering step comprises administering a processing agent substance to a human being, the processing agent having a primary behavior effective in combination with a processing system to achieve a desired

process result, wherein the processing agent exhibits a time-dependent behavior of the processing agent in the human being, distinguishing the processing agent from other processing agents.

27.   (**Previously Presented**)   A method according to claim 25 wherein the administering step comprises administering a processing agent substance to a human being, the processing agent having a primary behavior effective in combination with a processing system to achieve a desired process result, wherein the processing agent exhibits a spatially-dependent behavior of the processing agent after administration to the human being, distinguishing the processing agent from other processing agents.

28.   (**Previously Presented**)   A method according to claim 22 wherein the administering step comprises administering a processing agent substance to a subject chosen from a human being, a plant and an animal, the processing agent having a primary behavior effective in combination with a processing system to achieve a desired process result and a property detectable by the processing system distinguishing the processing agent from other processing agents.

29.   (**Previously Presented**)   A method according to claim 22 wherein the processing apparatus comprises an analysis apparatus, the processing agent comprises an analysis agent, the analysis agent being administered to the analysis subject and detecting in response to the administering of the analysis agent a condition of the analysis subject as the process result.

30. – 44.   -- (**Canceled**)

45.   (**Previously Presented**)   The method of claim 22, wherein the processing agent substance comprises a radioactive isotope.

46.   (**Canceled**)